

amended by Chapter 239 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Insurance

Section 10-204(c)(3), 10-211, and 10-408

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1995 Volume and 1996 Supplement)

(As enacted by Chapter 36 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1995, as amended by Chapter 369 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1996)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Chapter 609 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1989, as amended by Chapter 39 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1993

Section 2

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 48A - Insurance Code

170.

(a) (1) Certificates OF QUALIFICATION issued to agents and brokers shall be renewed every other year ON OR BEFORE JUNE 30, unless prior thereto the certificate OF QUALIFICATION is revoked or suspended by the Commissioner or terminated under this section.

(2) The Commissioner may adopt rules and regulations to implement and operate a staggered system of certificate renewal.

(b) (1) [Subject to paragraph (2) of this subsection, in] IN the absence of a contrary ruling by the [Commissioner] COMMISSIONER, certificates OF QUALIFICATION shall be renewed [every 2 years] subject to the payment of the biennial fee as required in § 41 of this article AND UPON COMPLETION OF THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION [upon request but without further action on the part of the agent or broker].

(2) Upon payment of the prescribed fees AND COMPLETION OF THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS prior to the date of renewal, the certificate OF QUALIFICATION shall continue in force until renewed by the Commissioner [or until such time as the Commissioner has refused for cause to renew that certificate].

[(2)](C) (1) [As a condition of a certificate renewal,] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (D) OF THIS SECTION, the Commissioner shall require AS A CONDITION OF RENEWING A CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION that an agent or broker [receive] COMPLETE THE REQUIRED continuing education BY JUNE 15 IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION OF THE CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFICATION.

[(i)] (2) [Regardless of the number of certificates an agent or broker may have, the] THE Commissioner may not require [an agent or broker] EACH